

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No. : Not Assigned  
Filed : August 25, 2003  
  
Patent No. : 6,279,298  
Granted : August 28, 2001  
Patentees : Toby R. Thomas  
Samuel D. Aversa  
John D. Athans  
  
Title : Fill-Through-The-Top Package And Method  
And Apparatus For Making The Same  
  
TC/A.U. : Not Assigned  
Examiner : Not Assigned  
  
Docket No. : 47097-00057USPR  
Customer No. : 30223

Commissioner for Patents  
Mail Stop Reissue  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 AND 1.98**

Dear Sir:

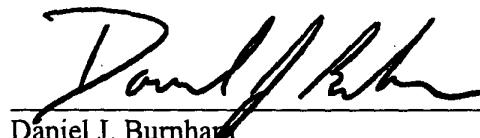
In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, it is respectfully requested that this Information Disclosure Statement be entered, and the references listed on enclosed Form PTO-1449 be considered by the Examiner and made of record. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d), copies of the listed references not previously submitted by the Applicants or cited by the Examiner for Patent No. 6,279,298 are enclosed.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97(g) and (h), this Information Disclosure Statement is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made, or an admission that the

information disclosed is, or is considered to be, prior art with respect to the present application or material to patentability, as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the filing date of this application and, hence, is believed to be timely in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b). Accordingly, no fee is believed to be due. Should any fee be deemed necessary (except payment of the issue fee), however, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 10-0447 (47097-00057USPR). A duplicate copy of this Statement is enclosed for that purpose.

Respectfully submitted,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Daniel J. Burnham  
Reg. No. 39,618  
Jenkens & Gilchrist  
225 West Washington Street, Suite 2600  
Chicago, IL 60606-3418  
(312) 425-3900  
Attorney for Applicants

Date: August 25, 2003

Form PTO-1449 (modified)

**LIST OF PRIOR ART CITED BY APPLICANT**

Sheet 1 of 17

Application No.: Not Assigned  
 Filing Date: August 25, 2003  
 First Named Inventor: Toby R. Thomas  
 Group Art Unit: Not Assigned  
 Examiner: Not Assigned  
 Attorney Docket No.: 47097-00057USPR

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initial	Ref.	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Sub-Class	Filing Date (if Application)
	A1	Re. 27,174	09/21/1971	Ausnit	383	35	
	A2	Re. 33,674	08/27/1991	Uramoto			
	A3	Re. 34,554	03/01/1994	Ausnit			
	A4	Re. 34,905	04/18/1995	Ausnit	53	412	
	A5	Re. 34,906	04/18/1995	Tamaki et al.	123	399	
	A6	1,992,152	02/19/1935	Yeates			
	A7	2,064,432	12/15/1936	Keidel			
	A8	2,506,311	05/02/1950	Moore			
	A9	2,560,535	07/17/1951	Allen			
	A10	2,848,031	08/19/1958	Svec et al.			
	A11	2,898,027	08/04/1959	Scholle			
	A12	2,978,769	04/11/1961	Harrah			
	A13	2,994,469	08/01/1961	Troup et al.			
	A14	3,054,434	09/18/1962	Ausnit et al.			
	A15	3,104,798	09/24/1963	Stone			
	A16	3,172,443	03/09/1965	Ausnit			
	A17	3,181,583	05/04/1965	Lingenfelter			
	A18	3,198,228	08/03/1965	Naito			
	A19	3,226,787	01/04/1966	Ausnit			
	A20	3,256,981	06/21/1966	Kurtz			
	A21	3,259,951	07/12/1966	Zimmerman	24	399	
	A22	3,262,634	07/26/1966	Goodwin			
	A23	3,282,493	11/01/1966	Kamins et al.			
	A24	3,313,471	04/11/1967	Dickard et al.			
	A25	3,325,084	06/13/1967	Ausnit			
<b>EXAMINER</b>				<b>DATE CONSIDERED</b>			

**\*Examiner:** Initial if citations considered, whether or not citation is in conformation with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.

Form PTO-1449 (modified)		Application No.:	Not Assigned
<b>LIST OF PRIOR ART CITED BY APPLICANT</b>		Filing Date:	August 25, 2003
		First Named Inventor:	Toby R. Thomas
		Group Art Unit:	Not Assigned
		Examiner:	Not Assigned
Sheet 2 of 17		Attorney Docket No.:	47097-00057USPR

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS (continued)**

Examiner Initial	Ref.	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Sub-Class	Filing Date (if Application)
	A26	3,326,399	06/20/1967	Ausnit			
	A27	3,338,285	08/29/1967	Jaster			
	A28	3,339,606	09/05/1967	Kugler			
	A29	3,368,740	02/13/1968	Rohde			
	A30	3,371,696	03/05/1968	Ausnit			
	A31	3,381,592	05/07/1968	Ravel	493	197	
	A32	3,387,640	06/11/1968	Butler			
	A33	3,416,986	12/17/1968	Carley			
	A34	3,417,675	12/24/1968	Ausnit			
	A35	3,425,469	02/04/1969	Ausnit			
	A36	3,426,396	02/11/1969	Laguerre	24	427	
	A37	3,437,258	04/08/1969	Kugler	229	58	
	A38	3,456,867	07/22/1969	Repko			
	A39	3,460,337	08/12/1969	Field			
	A40	3,462,068	08/19/1969	Suominen			
	A41	3,471,005	10/07/1969	Sexstone			
	A42	3,473,589	10/21/1969	Gotz			
	A43	3,532,571	10/06/1970	Ausnit			
	A44	3,535,409	10/20/1970	Rohde			
	A45	3,543,343	12/01/1970	Staller et al.			
	A46	3,565,147	02/23/1971	Ausnit			
	A47	3,608,439	09/28/1971	Ausnit			
	A48	3,613,524	10/19/1971	Behr	493	214	
	A49	3,619,395	11/09/1971	Skendzic			
<b>EXAMINER</b>			<b>DATE CONSIDERED</b>				

**\*Examiner:** Initial if citations considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.

Form PTO-1449 (modified) <b>LIST OF PRIOR ART CITED BY APPLICANT</b> Sheet 3 of 17				Application No.:	Not Assigned		
				Filing Date:	August 25, 2003		
				First Named Inventor:	Toby R. Thomas		
				Group Art Unit:	Not Assigned		
				Examiner:	Not Assigned		
				Attorney Docket No.:	47097-00057USPR		
<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS (continued)</b>							
Examiner Initial	Ref.	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Sub-Class	Filing Date (if Application)
	A50	3,625,270	12/07/1971	Skendzic			
	A51	3,633,642	01/11/1972	Slegel			
	A52	3,640,381	02/08/1972	Kanada et al.	229	206	
	A53	3,655,503	04/11/1972	Stanley et al.			
	A54	3,679,511	07/25/1972	Ausnit	156	251	
	A55	3,701,191	10/31/1972	Laguerre	29	768	
	A56	3,701,192	10/31/1972	Laguerre	29	768	
	A57	3,711,011	01/16/1973	Kugler			
	A58	3,722,672	03/27/1973	Ebata			
	A59	3,738,567	06/12/1973	Ruda	383	75	
	A60	3,744,211	07/10/1973	Titchenal et al.	53	459	
	A61	3,746,215	07/17/1973	Ausnit et al.			
	A62	3,780,781	12/25/1973	Uramoto			
	A63	3,785,111	01/15/1974	Pike	53	410	
	A64	3,790,992	02/12/1974	Herz	24	400	
	A65	3,815,317	06/11/1974	Toss	53	451	
	A66	3,817,017	06/18/1974	Titchenal	53	437	
	A67	3,818,963	06/25/1974	Whitman			
	A68	3,827,472	08/06/1974	Uramoto			
	A69	3,839,128	10/01/1974	Arai			
	A70	3,868,891	03/04/1975	Parish	493	194	
	A71	3,903,571	09/09/1975	Howell			
	A72	3,909,887	10/07/1975	Yoshida			
	A73	3,948,705	04/06/1976	Ausnit			
<b>EXAMINER</b>				<b>DATE CONSIDERED</b>			

\*Examiner: Initial if citations considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.

Form PTO-1449 (modified)		Application No.:	Not Assigned				
<b>LIST OF PRIOR ART CITED BY APPLICANT</b>		Filing Date:	August 25, 2003				
		First Named Inventor:	Toby R. Thomas				
		Group Art Unit:	Not Assigned				
		Examiner:	Not Assigned				
Sheet 4 of 17		Attorney Docket No.:	47097-00057USPR				
<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS (continued)</b>							
Examiner Initial	Ref.	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Sub-Class	Filing Date (if Application)
	A74	3,953,661	04/27/1976	Gulley			
	A75	3,988,184	10/26/1976	Howard	156	66	
	A76	3,991,801	11/16/1976	Ausnit			
	A77	4,003,972	01/18/1977	Herz			
	A78	4,094,729	06/13/1978	Boccia	156	515	
	A79	4,101,355	07/18/1978	Ausnit	156	66	
	A80	4,112,990	09/12/1978	Anderson			
	A81	4,118,166	10/03/1978	Bartrum			
	A82	4,153,090	05/08/1979	Rifkin			
	A83	4,189,050	02/19/1980	Jensen et al.			
	A84	4,189,809	02/26/1980	Sotos			
	A85	4,191,230	03/04/1980	Ausnit			
	A86	4,196,030	04/01/1980	Ausnit			
	A87	4,212,337	07/15/1980	Kamp			
	A88	4,235,653	11/25/1980	Ausnit			
	A89	4,240,241	12/23/1980	Sanborn, Jr.			
	A90	4,241,865	12/30/1980	Ferrell			
	A91	4,246,288	01/20/1981	Sanborn, Jr.			
	A92	4,249,982	02/10/1981	Ausnit			
	A93	4,252,238	02/24/1981	Spiegelberg et al.			
	A94	4,277,241	07/07/1981	Schulze	493	196	
	A95	4,279,677	07/21/1981	Takahashi			
	A96	4,285,376	08/25/1981	Ausnit			
	A97	4,295,919	10/20/1981	Sutrina et al.			
<b>EXAMINER</b>			<b>DATE CONSIDERED</b>				

**\*Examiner:** Initial if citations considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.

Form PTO-1449 (modified) <b>LIST OF PRIOR ART CITED BY APPLICANT</b>  Sheet 5 of 17				Application No.:	Not Assigned		
				Filing Date:	August 25, 2003		
				First Named Inventor:	Toby R. Thomas		
				Group Art Unit:	Not Assigned		
				Examiner:	Not Assigned		
				Attorney Docket No.:	47097-00057USPR		
<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS (continued)</b>							
Examiner Initial	Ref.	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Sub-Class	Filing Date (if Application)
	A98	4,309,233	01/05/1982	Akashi			
	A99	4,341,575	07/27/1982	Herz	156	66	
	A100	4,355,494	10/26/1982	Tilman	53	416	
	A101	4,363,345	12/14/1982	Scheibner			
	A102	4,372,793	02/08/1983	Herz	156	66	
	A103	4,379,806	04/12/1983	Korpman			
	A104	4,415,386	11/15/1983	Ferrell et al.	493	213	
	A105	4,419,159	12/06/1983	Herrington			
	A106	4,428,477	01/31/1984	Cristofolo			
	A107	4,428,788	01/31/1984	Kamp			
	A108	4,430,070	02/07/1984	Ausnit			
	A109	4,437,293	03/20/1984	Sanborn, Jr.			
	A110	4,446,088	05/01/1984	Daines	264	155	
	A111	4,490,959	01/01/1985	Lems	53	459	
	A112	4,497,678	02/05/1985	Nussbaum			
	A113	4,498,939	02/12/1985	Johnson			
	A114	4,514,962	05/07/1985	Ausnit	53	457	
	A115	4,515,647	05/07/1985	Behr			
	A116	4,517,788	05/21/1985	Scheffers	53	459	
	A117	4,518,087	05/21/1985	Goglio			
	A118	4,522,305	06/11/1985	Jacobsson			
	A119	4,528,224	07/09/1985	Ausnit			
	A120	4,540,537	09/10/1985	Kamp			
	A121	4,555,282	11/26/1985	Yano			
<b>EXAMINER</b>				<b>DATE CONSIDERED</b>			

\***Examiner:** Initial if citations considered, whether or not citation is in conformation with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.

Form PTO-1449 (modified)		Application No.:	Not Assigned
<b>LIST OF PRIOR ART CITED BY APPLICANT</b>		Filing Date:	August 25, 2003
		First Named Inventor:	Toby R. Thomas
		Group Art Unit:	Not Assigned
		Examiner:	Not Assigned
Sheet 6 of 17		Attorney Docket No.:	47097-00057USPR

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS (continued)**

Examiner Initial	Ref.	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Sub-Class	Filing Date (if Application)
	A122	4,561,109	12/24/1985	Herrington			
	A123	4,563,319	01/07/1986	Ausnit et al.	264	146	
	A124	4,573,203	02/25/1986	Peppiatt			
	A125	4,581,006	04/08/1986	Hugues et al.	493	213	
	A126	4,582,549	04/15/1986	Ferrell			
	A127	4,584,201	04/22/1986	Boston			
	A128	4,586,319	05/06/1986	Ausnit	53	468	
	A129	4,589,145	05/13/1986	Van Erden et al.			
	A130	4,601,694	07/22/1986	Ausnit			
	A131	4,602,405	07/29/1986	Sturman et al.			
	A132	4,612,153	09/16/1986	Mangla	264	154	
	A133	4,615,083	10/07/1986	Mayerhofer			
	A134	4,617,683	10/14/1986	Christoff			
	A135	4,620,320	10/28/1986	Sullivan	383	203	
	A136	4,638,913	01/27/1987	Howe, Jr.			
	A137	4,646,511	03/03/1987	Boeckmann et al.	53	551	
	A138	4,651,504	03/24/1987	Bentsen	53	452	
	A139	4,652,496	03/24/1987	Yasufuku et al.	428	425.9	
	A140	4,654,878	03/31/1987	Lems	383	37	
	A141	4,655,862	04/07/1987	Christoff et al.	156	66	
	A142	4,656,075	04/07/1987	Mudge			
	A143	4,663,915	05/12/1987	Van Erden et al.	53	450	
	A144	4,664,649	05/12/1987	Johnson et al.			
	A145	4,665,552	05/12/1987	Lems et al.	383	37	
<b>EXAMINER</b>				<b>DATE CONSIDERED</b>			

**\*Examiner:** Initial if citations considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.

Form PTO-1449 (modified) <b>LIST OF PRIOR ART CITED BY APPLICANT</b> Sheet 7 of 17				Application No.:	Not Assigned		
				Filing Date:	August 25, 2003		
				First Named Inventor:	Toby R. Thomas		
				Group Art Unit:	Not Assigned		
				Examiner:	Not Assigned		
				Attorney Docket No.:	47097-00057USPR		
<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS (continued)</b>							
Examiner Initial	Ref.	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Sub-Class	Filing Date (if Application)
	A146	4,665,557	05/12/1987	Kamp	383	63	
	A147	4,666,536	05/19/1987	Van Erden et al.			
	A148	4,673,383	06/16/1987	Bentsen			
	A149	4,682,366	07/21/1987	Ausnit et al.			
	A150	4,691,372	09/01/1987	Van Erden	383	63	
	A151	4,698,118	10/06/1987	Takahashi et al.			
	A152	4,703,518	10/27/1987	Ausnit	383	63	
	A153	4,709,398	11/24/1987	Ausnit	383	63	
	A154	4,709,533	12/01/1987	Ausnit			
	A155	4,710,157	12/01/1987	Posey	493	213	
	A156	4,713,839	12/15/1987	Peppiatt			
	A157	4,736,450	04/05/1988	Van Erden et al.			
	A158	4,736,451	04/05/1988	Ausnit			
	A159	4,744,674	05/17/1988	Nocek			
	A160	4,755,247	07/05/1988	Mudge			
	A161	4,755,248	07/05/1988	Geiger et al.			
	A162	4,782,951	11/08/1988	Griesbach et al.			
	A163	4,786,190	11/22/1988	Van Erden et al.			
	A164	4,787,880	11/29/1988	Ausnit	493	213	
	A165	4,790,126	12/13/1988	Boeckmann	53	451	
	A166	4,791,710	12/20/1988	Nocek et al.			
	A167	4,792,240	12/20/1988	Ausnit	383	63	
	A168	4,807,300	02/21/1989	Ausnit et al.	383	65	
	A169	4,812,074	03/14/1989	Ausnit et al.	493	213	
<b>EXAMINER</b>				<b>DATE CONSIDERED</b>			

\*Examiner: Initial if citations considered, whether or not citation is in conformation with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.

Form PTO-1449 (modified)  <b>LIST OF PRIOR ART CITED BY APPLICANT</b>			Application No.:	Not Assigned			
			Filing Date:	August 25, 2003			
			First Named Inventor:	Toby R. Thomas			
			Group Art Unit:	Not Assigned			
			Examiner:	Not Assigned			
Sheet 8 of 17			Attorney Docket No.:	47097-00057USPR			
<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS (continued)</b>							
Examiner Initial	Ref.	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Sub-Class	Filing Date (if Application)
	A170	4,817,188	03/28/1989	Van Erden			
	A171	4,832,505	05/23/1989	Ausnit et al.			
	A172	4,835,835	06/06/1989	Gould			
	A173	4,840,012	06/20/1989	Boeckmann	53	410	
	A174	4,840,611	06/20/1989	Van Erden et al.	493	213	
	A175	4,844,759	07/04/1989	Boeckmann	156	66	
	A176	4,846,585	07/11/1989	Boeckmann et al.			
	A177	4,848,064	07/18/1989	Lems et al.	53	459	
	A178	4,850,178	07/25/1989	Ausnit	53	570	
	A179	4,855,168	08/08/1989	Imaizumi			
	A180	4,863,285	09/05/1989	Claxton	383	37	
	A181	4,875,587	10/24/1989	Lulham et al.			
	A182	4,876,842	10/31/1989	Ausnit	53	410	
	A183	4,877,336	10/31/1989	Peppiatt			
	A184	4,878,987	11/07/1989	Ven Erden	156	519	
	A185	4,889,731	12/26/1989	Williams, Jr.			
	A186	4,890,935	01/02/1990	Ausnit et al.			
	A187	4,892,414	01/09/1990	Ausnit	383	63	
	A188	4,892,512	01/09/1990	Branson	493	194	
	A189	4,894,975	01/23/1990	Ausnit	53	412	
	A190	4,895,198	01/23/1990	Samuelson			
	A191	4,902,140	02/20/1990	Branson			
	A192	4,909,017	03/20/1990	McMahon et al.	53	410	
	A193	4,923,309	05/08/1990	Van Erden			
<b>EXAMINER</b>				<b>DATE CONSIDERED</b>			

\***Examiner:** Initial if citations considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.

Form PTO-1449 (modified) <b>LIST OF PRIOR ART CITED BY APPLICANT</b> Sheet 9 of 17			Application No.: Not Assigned Filing Date: August 25, 2003 First Named Inventor: Toby R. Thomas Group Art Unit: Not Assigned Examiner: Not Assigned Attorney Docket No.: 47097-00057USPR				
<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS (continued)</b>							
Examiner Initial	Ref.	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Sub-Class	Filing Date (if Application)
	A194	4,924,655	05/15/1990	Posey	53	133.2	
	A195	4,925,316	05/15/1990	Van Erden et al.			
	A196	4,925,318	05/15/1990	Sorensen			
	A197	4,929,225	05/29/1990	Ausnit et al.	493	213	
	A198	4,941,307	07/17/1990	Wojcik	53	412	
	A199	4,944,409	07/31/1990	Busche et al.			
	A200	4,945,714	08/07/1990	Bodolay et al.	53	568	
	A201	4,947,525	08/14/1990	Van Erden			
	A202	4,969,309	11/13/1990	Schwarz et al.	53	412	
	A203	4,969,967	11/13/1990	Sorensen et al.			
	A204	4,971,454	11/20/1990	Branson et al.			
	A205	4,974,395	12/04/1990	McMahon	53	551	
	A206	4,993,212	02/19/1991	Veoukas	53	451	
	A207	5,005,707	04/09/1991	Hustad et al.	383	210	
	A208	5,007,142	04/16/1991	Herrington			
	A209	5,007,143	04/16/1991	Herrington			
	A210	5,010,627	04/30/1991	Herrington et al.			
	A211	5,014,498	05/14/1991	McMahon	53	451	
	A212	5,017,021	05/21/1991	Simonsen et al.			
	A213	5,020,194	06/04/1991	Herrington et al.			
	A214	5,022,530	06/11/1991	Zieke			
	A215	5,023,122	06/11/1991	Boeckmann et al.			
	A216	5,024,537	06/18/1991	Tilman	383	63	
	A217	5,027,584	07/02/1991	McMahon et al.	53	451	
<b>EXAMINER</b>				<b>DATE CONSIDERED</b>			

\***Examiner:** Initial if citations considered, whether or not citation is in conformation with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.

Form PTO-1449 (modified)  <b>LIST OF PRIOR ART CITED BY APPLICANT</b>			Application No.:	Not Assigned			
			Filing Date:	August 25, 2003			
			First Named Inventor:	Toby R. Thomas			
			Group Art Unit:	Not Assigned			
			Examiner:	Not Assigned			
Sheet 10 of 17			Attorney Docket No.:	47097-00057USPR			
<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS (continued)</b>							
Examiner Initial	Ref.	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Sub-Class	Filing Date (if Application)
	A218	5,033,868	07/23/1991	Peppiatt			
	A219	5,035,517	07/30/1991	Edelman	53	133.4	
	A220	5,036,643	08/06/1991	Bodolay	53	128.1	
	A221	5,042,224	08/27/1991	McMahon	53	133.4	
	A222	5,046,300	09/10/1991	Custer et al.	53	412	
	A223	5,063,069	11/05/1991	Van Erden et al.			
	A224	5,063,639	11/12/1991	Boeckmann et al.	24	30.5 R	
	A225	5,063,644	11/12/1991	Herrington et al.			
	A226	5,065,899	11/19/1991	Tilman			
	A227	5,066,444	11/19/1991	Behr			
	A228	5,067,208	11/26/1991	Herrington et al.			
	A229	5,067,822	11/26/1991	Wirth et al.			
	A230	5,070,583	12/10/1991	Herrington			
	A231	5,071,689	12/10/1991	Tilman	428	121	
	A232	5,072,571	12/17/1991	Boeckmann	53	133.4	
	A233	5,085,031	02/04/1992	McDonald	53	412	
	A234	5,088,971	02/18/1992	Herrington			
	A235	5,092,684	03/03/1992	Weeks			
	A236	5,092,831	03/03/1992	James et al.			
	A237	5,096,516	03/17/1992	McDonald et al.	156	66	
	A238	5,100,246	03/31/1992	La Pierre et al.			
	A239	5,105,603	04/21/1992	Natterer	53	412	
	A240	5,107,658	04/28/1992	Hustad et al.	53	408	
	A241	5,111,643	05/12/1992	Hobock	53	551	
<b>EXAMINER</b>			<b>DATE CONSIDERED</b>				

\***Examiner:** Initial if citations considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.

Form PTO-1449 (modified)		Application No.:	Not Assigned
<b>LIST OF PRIOR ART CITED BY APPLICANT</b>		Filing Date:	August 25, 2003
		First Named Inventor:	Toby R. Thomas
		Group Art Unit:	Not Assigned
		Examiner:	Not Assigned
Sheet 11 of 17		Attorney Docket No.:	47097-00057USPR

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS (continued)**

Examiner Initial	Ref.	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Sub-Class	Filing Date (if Application)
	A242	5,112,138	05/12/1992	Peppiatt			
	A243	5,116,301	05/26/1992	Robinson et al.			
	A244	5,121,997	06/16/1992	La Pierre et al.			
	A245	5,127,208	07/07/1992	Custer et al.	53	412	
	A246	5,129,734	07/14/1992	Van Erden			
	A247	5,131,121	07/21/1992	Herrington et al.			
	A248	5,147,272	09/15/1992	Richison et al.	493	195	
	A249	5,152,613	10/06/1992	Herrington, Jr.			
	A250	5,161,286	11/10/1992	Herrington, Jr. et al.			
	A251	5,167,608	12/01/1992	Steffens, Jr. et al.	493	214	
	A252	5,179,816	01/19/1993	Wojnicki	53	133.4	
	A253	5,186,543	02/16/1993	Cochran			
	A254	5,188,461	02/23/1993	Sorensen	383	210.1	
	A255	5,189,764	03/02/1993	Herrington et al.			
	A256	5,198,055	03/30/1993	Wirth et al.			
	A257	5,209,574	05/11/1993	Tilman	383	63	
	A258	5,211,482	05/18/1993	Tilman			
	A259	5,224,779	07/06/1993	Thompson et al.			
	A260	5,247,781	09/28/1993	Runge	53	412	
	A261	5,254,073	10/19/1993	Richison et al.	493	195	
	A262	5,259,904	11/09/1993	Ausnit	156	244.15	
	A263	5,273,511	12/28/1993	Boeckman	493	195	
	A264	5,283,932	02/08/1994	Richardson et al.			
	A265	5,301,394	04/12/1994	Richardson et al.			
<b>EXAMINER</b>				<b>DATE CONSIDERED</b>			

\***Examiner:** Initial if citations considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.

Form PTO-1449 (modified) <b>LIST OF PRIOR ART CITED BY APPLICANT</b> Sheet 12 of 17			Application No.: Not Assigned Filing Date: August 25, 2003 First Named Inventor: Toby R. Thomas Group Art Unit: Not Assigned Examiner: Not Assigned Attorney Docket No.: 47097-00057USPR				
<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS (continued)</b>							
Examiner Initial	Ref.	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Sub-Class	Filing Date (if Application)
	A266	5,301,395	04/12/1994	Richardson et al.			
	A267	5,322,579	06/21/1994	Van Erden	156	66	
	A268	5,334,127	08/02/1994	Bruno et al.	493	194	
	A269	5,366,294	11/22/1994	Wirth et al.			
	A270	5,383,989	01/24/1995	McMahon	156	66	
	A271	5,391,136	02/21/1995	Makowka	493	210	
	A272	5,400,565	03/28/1995	Terminella et al.	53	133.4	
	A273	5,400,568	03/28/1995	Kanemitsu et al.	53	412	
	A274	5,403,094	04/04/1995	Tomic	383	63	
	A275	5,405,478	04/11/1995	Richardson et al.			
	A276	5,405,629	04/11/1995	Marnocha et al.	426	122	
	A277	5,412,924	05/09/1995	Ausnit	53	412	
	A278	5,415,904	05/16/1995	Takubo et al.	428	35.2	
	A279	5,425,216	06/20/1995	Ausnit	53	410	
	A280	5,425,825	06/20/1995	Rasko et al.			
	A281	5,426,830	06/27/1995	Richardson et al.			
	A282	5,431,760	07/11/1995	Donovan			
	A283	5,435,864	07/25/1995	Machacek et al.			
	A284	5,442,837	08/22/1995	Morgan			
	A285	5,442,838	08/22/1995	Richardson et al.			
	A286	5,448,807	09/12/1995	Herrington et al.			
	A287	5,448,808	09/12/1995	Gross			
	A288	5,456,928	10/10/1995	Hustad et al.			
	A289	5,461,845	10/31/1995	Yeager	53	451	
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED			

\***Examiner:** Initial if citations considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.

Form PTO-1449 (modified)  <b>LIST OF PRIOR ART CITED BY APPLICANT</b>		Application No.: Not Assigned Filing Date: August 25, 2003 First Named Inventor: Toby R. Thomas Group Art Unit: Not Assigned Examiner: Not Assigned Attorney Docket No.: 47097-00057USPR					
Sheet 13 of 17							
<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS (continued)</b>							
Examiner Initial	Ref.	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Sub-Class	Filing Date (if Application)
	A290	5,470,156	11/28/1995	May	383	210	
	A291	5,482,375	01/09/1996	Richardson et al.			
	A292	5,486,051	01/23/1996	May			
	A293	5,489,252	02/06/1996	May	383	210	
	A294	5,492,411	02/20/1996	May	383	5	
	A295	5,505,037	04/09/1996	Terminella et al.	53	133.4	
	A296	5,509,735	04/23/1995	May	383	210	
	A297	5,511,884	04/30/1996	Bruno et al.	383	63	
	A298	5,513,915	05/07/1996	May			
	A299	5,519,982	05/28/1996	Herber et al.	53	412	
	A300	5,525,363	06/11/1996	Herber et al.	426	130	
	A301	5,542,902	08/06/1996	Richison et al.	493	195	
	A302	5,551,127	09/03/1996	May	24	305	
	A303	5,551,208	09/03/1996	Van Erden	53	139.2	
	A304	5,552,202	09/03/1996	May	428	43	
	A305	5,557,907	09/24/1996	Malin et al.	53	139.2	
	A306	5,558,613	09/24/1996	Tilman et al.	493	214	
	A307	5,561,966	10/08/1996	English	53	412	
	A308	5,564,259	10/15/1996	Stolmeier	53	410	
	A309	5,573,614	11/12/1996	Tilman et al.	156	66	
	A310	5,582,853	12/10/1996	Marnocha et al.	426	122	
	A311	5,592,802	01/14/1997	Malin et al.	53	133.4	
	A312	5,613,934	03/25/1997	May	493	214	
	A313	5,622,431	04/22/1997	Simonsen	383	63	
<b>EXAMINER</b>				<b>DATE CONSIDERED</b>			

\***Examiner:** Initial if citations considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.

Form PTO-1449 (modified)							
<b>LIST OF PRIOR ART CITED BY APPLICANT</b>							
Sheet 14 of 17							
Application No.: Not Assigned Filing Date: August 25, 2003 First Named Inventor: Toby R. Thomas Group Art Unit: Not Assigned Examiner: Not Assigned Attorney Docket No.: 47097-00057USPR							
<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS (continued)</b>							
Examiner Initial	Ref.	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Sub-Class	Filing Date (if Application)
	A314	5,625,927	05/06/1997	Chu			
	A315	5,628,566	05/13/1997	Schreiter	383	63	
	A316	5,638,586	06/17/1997	Malin et al.	24	587	
	A317	5,647,671	07/15/1997	May	383	210	
	A318	5,664,299	09/09/1997	Porchia et al.			
	A319	5,669,715	09/23/1997	Dobreski et al.			
	A320	5,681,115	10/28/1997	Diederich et al.			
	A321	5,682,730	11/04/1997	Dobreski			
	A322	5,704,192	01/06/1998	Jostler et al.	53	384.1	
	A323	5,711,751	01/27/1998	Harmanoglu	493	224	
	A324	5,713,669	02/03/1998	Thomas et al.	383	204	
	A325	5,725,312	03/10/1998	May	383	210	
	A326	5,769,772	06/23/1998	Wiley	493	189	
	A327	5,775,812	07/07/1998	St. Phillips et al.	383	5	
	A328	5,776,045	07/07/1998	Bodolay et al.	493	215	
	A329	5,782,733	07/21/1998	Yeager	493	213	
	A330	5,788,378	08/04/1998	Thomas	383	63	
	A331	5,823,933	10/20/1998	Yeager	493	213	
	A332	5,833,791	11/10/1998	Bryniarski et al.	156	244.25	
	A333	5,873,969	02/23/1999	Keith et al.	156	91	
	A334	5,906,438	05/25/1999	Laudenberg	383	63	
	A335	5,911,508	06/15/1999	Dobreski et al.	383	5	
	A336	5,924,173	07/20/1999	Dobreski et al.	24	400	
	A337	5,938,337	08/17/1999	Provan et al.	383	5	
<b>EXAMINER</b>				<b>DATE CONSIDERED</b>			

\*Examiner: Initial if citations considered, whether or not citation is in conformation with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.

Form PTO-1449 (modified)		Application No.: Not Assigned Filing Date: August 25, 2003 First Named Inventor: Toby R. Thomas Group Art Unit: Not Assigned Examiner: Not Assigned Attorney Docket No.: 47097-00057USPR					
LIST OF PRIOR ART CITED BY APPLICANT		Sheet 15 of 17					
<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS (continued)</b>							
Examiner Initial	Ref.	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Sub-Class	Filing Date (if Application)
	A338	5,956,924	09/28/1999	Thieman	53	412	
	A339	5,964,532	10/12/1999	St. Phillips et al.	383	5	
	A340	6,000,197	12/14/1999	Ausnit	53	412	
	A341	6,017,412	01/25/2000	Van Erden et al.	53	133.4	
	A342	6,044,621	04/04/2000	Malin et al.	53	412	
	A343	6,088,998	07/18/2000	Malin et al.	53	133.4	
	A344	6,131,369	10/17/2000	Ausnit	53	412	
	A345	6,131,374	10/17/2000	Bois	53	139.2	
	A346	6,138,436	10/31/2000	Malin et al.	53	133.4	
	A347	6,138,439	10/31/2000	McMahon et al.	53	412	
	A348	6,161,271	12/19/2000	Schreiter	29	408	
	A349	6,212,857	04/10/2001	Van Erden	53	412	
	A350	6,216,423	04/17/2001	Thieman	53	412	
	A351	6,279,298	08/28/2001	Thomas et al.	53	412	
	A352	6,286,189	09/11/2001	Provan et al.	24	30.5 R	
	A353	6,286,999	09/11/2001	Cappel et al.	383	5	
	A354	6,289,561	09/18/2001	Provan et al.	24	415	
	A355	6,292,986	09/25/2001	Provan et al.	24	415	
	A356	6,293,896	09/25/2001	Buchman	493	213	
	A357	6,327,754	12/11/2001	Belmont et al.	24	400	
	A358	6,347,437	02/19/2002	Provan et al.	24	400	
	A359	6,360,513	03/26/2002	Strand et al.	53	412	
	A360	6,363,692	04/02/2002	Thieman	53	412	
	A361	6,412,254	07/02/2002	Tilman et al.	53	412	
<b>EXAMINER</b>				<b>DATE CONSIDERED</b>			

**\*Examiner:** Initial if citations considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.

Form PTO-1449 (modified)		Application No.:	Not Assigned
<b>LIST OF PRIOR ART CITED BY APPLICANT</b>		Filing Date:	August 25, 2003
		First Named Inventor:	Toby R. Thomas
		Group Art Unit:	Not Assigned
		Examiner:	Not Assigned
Sheet 16 of 17		Attorney Docket No.:	47097-00057USPR

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS (continued)**

Examiner Initial	Ref.	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Sub-Class	Filing Date (if Application)
	A362	6,419,391	07/16/2002	Thomas	383	5	
	A363	6,427,421	08/06/2002	Belmont et al.	53	412	
	A364	6,439,770	08/27/2002	Catchman	383	5	
	A365	6,470,551	10/29/2002	Provan et al.	29	408	
	A366	6,499,272	12/31/2002	Thieman	53	412	

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initial	Ref.	Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Sub-Class	Translation Yes/No
	B1	EP 0 109 793	05/30/1984	EP			
	B2	EP 0 239 319	09/05/1990	EP			
	B3	EP 0 276 554	08/03/1988	EP			
	B4	EP 0 302 144	02/08/1989	EP			
	B5	EP 0 374 539	08/25/1993	EP			
	B6	EP 0 939 034 A1 /	09/01/1999	EP	B65B	61/18	N/A
	B7	EP 0 978 450 A1 ↓	02/09/2000	EP	B65B	9/20	N/A
	B8	EP 1 026 077 A2 ↓	08/09/2000	EP	B65B	9/08	N/A
	B9	FR 1 350 126	12/16/1963	France			
	B10	FR 2 613 326	10/07/1988	France			
	B11	JP 57 105248	12/22/1980	Japan			
	B12	GB 1 546 433	05/23/1979	UK			
	B13	GB 2 080 412	02/03/1982	UK			
	B14	GB 2 085 519	04/28/1982	UK	A44B	19/62	
	B15	GB 2 130 173	05/31/1984	UK			
	B16	GB 2 268 721	01/19/1994	UK			

**EXAMINER**

**DATE CONSIDERED**

\***Examiner:** Initial if citations considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.

Form PTO-1449 (modified) <b>LIST OF PRIOR ART CITED BY APPLICANT</b> Sheet 17 of 17				Application No.: Not Assigned Filing Date: August 25, 2003 First Named Inventor: Toby R. Thomas Group Art Unit: Not Assigned Examiner: Not Assigned Attorney Docket No.: 47097-00057USPR			
<b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS (continued)</b>							
Examiner Initial	Ref.	Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Sub-Class	Translation Yes/No
	B17	GB 2 268 731	01/19/1994	UK			
	B18	WO 95/29604	11/09/1995	WIPO			
	B19	WO 95/35046	12/28/1995	WIPO			
	B20	WO 95/35047	12/28/1995	WIPO			
	B21	WO 95/35048	12/28/1995	WIPO			
	B22	WO 99/24325	05/20/1999	WIPO	B65B	61/18	
<b>OTHER DOCUMENTS (including author, title, date, pertinent pages, etc.)</b>							
Examiner Initial	Ref.	Document Information					
<b>EXAMINER</b>				<b>DATE CONSIDERED</b>			

\***Examiner:** Initial if citations considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.